

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method of using a dynamic computing environment (“DCE”) for a
2 plurality of phases in a software lifecycle, the method comprising:
3 configuring the dynamic computing environment for a first phase in the
4 plurality of phases;
5 using the configured dynamic computing environment in the first phase;
6 configuring the dynamic computing environment for a second phase in the
7 plurality of phases; and
8 using the configured dynamic computing environment in the second phase.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of phases comprise a
development phase.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein using the configured dynamic
computing environment comprises:
 using the configured DCE for a first task; and
 using the configured DCE simultaneously with the first task for a second task.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of phases comprise an
integration phase.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein using the configured dynamic
computing environment comprises using the DCE for integrating the software.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of phases comprise a
testing phase.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein further comprising re-configuring a
clean environment in the DCE during the testing phase.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of phases comprise a beta
testing phase.
9. The method of claim 8, wherein configuring the dynamic computing
environment comprises installing software on the DCE,
 wherein using the configured dynamic computing environment comprises beta
testing the software using the DCE.

- 1 10. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of phases comprise a
2 staging phase.
- 1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein configuring the dynamic computing
2 environment comprises installing a new version of the software,
3 wherein using the configured dynamic computing environment comprises
4 enabling access for at least one user to the new version of the software.
- 1 12. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of phases comprise a
2 deployment phase.
13. The method of claim 12, wherein using the configured dynamic
computing environment comprises:
testing the software; and
updating the software if updates are required.
14. The method of claim 1, wherein the software lifecycle comprises a
shrink-wrap lifecycle.
15. The method of claim 1, wherein the software lifecycle comprises a web
site lifecycle.
- 1 16. The method of claim 1, wherein the software lifecycle comprises an
2 ASP lifecycle.
- 1 17. A method of using a dynamic computing environment (“DCE”) for a
2 plurality of phases in a software lifecycle, wherein each phase in the plurality of phases in the
3 software lifecycle include computing resource requirements, the method comprising:
4 (a) sending a command to the DCE to allocate computing resource
5 requirements for a phase in the plurality of phases;
6 (b) configuring the DCE with the computing resource requirements for the
7 phase;
8 (c) performing the phase using the configured DCE; and
9 (d) repeating steps (a) – (c) for the plurality of phases in the software
10 lifecycle.

1 18. The method of claim 17, wherein the plurality of phases comprise at
2 least one of a development stage, integration stage, testing stage, beta testing stage, beta
3 deployment stage, and deployment stage.

1 19. The method of claim 17, wherein the software lifecycle comprises at
2 least one of a web site lifecycle, an application service provider lifecycle, and a shrink-wrap
3 lifecycle.

1 20. An apparatus for performing for a plurality of phases in a software
2 lifecycle, the method comprising:
3 a dynamic computing environment
4 instructions for configuring the dynamic computing environment for a first
5 phase in the plurality of phases;
6 instructions for using the configured dynamic computing environment in the
7 first phase;
8 instructions for configuring the dynamic computing environment for a second
9 phase in the plurality of phases; and
10 instructions for using the configured dynamic computing environment in the
11 second phase.

1 21. An apparatus for using a dynamic computing environment (“DCE”) for
2 a plurality of phases in a software lifecycle, wherein each phase in the plurality of phases in
3 the software lifecycle include computing resource requirements, the apparatus comprising:
4 (a) instructions for sending a command to the DCE to allocate computing
5 resource requirements for a phase in the plurality of phases;
6 (b) instructions for configuring the DCE with the computing resource
7 requirements for the phase;
8 (c) instructions for performing the phase using the configured DCE; and
9 (d) instructions for repeating steps (a) – (c) for the plurality of phases in the
10 software lifecycle.